4. how many complaints about his partialities in his official duties and how many about his personal character ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Government do not consider it worth while to go through the records of so many years to find out the information sought.

From the files forthcoming, it is found that there were complaints against the Sub-Magistrate, and that they were found to be groundless. His transfer from Cranganur was in the exigencies of service and not on account of any petition.

455. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

have the Government come to know that parties who appear in his court are complaining to the District Magistrate and to other authorities that Mr. P. Govindan Nayar is showing undue favour to certain class of women who figure as parties in his court; if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to make enquiries in the matter?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A petition to transfer a case in which the interpellating Member appeared as a Vakil was recently received by the District Magistrate containing allegations of the sort adverted to in the question. The District Magistrate characterised the allegations as absolutely unfounded. No other petitions have been received.

456. Mr. M. K. Raman.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) has it come to the notice of the Government that a suit has been filed by a Nayar woman of Perumanur, Ernakulam, against Mr. P. Govindan Nayar, Sub-Magistrate, claiming maintenance from him, and that Mr. Govindan Nayar made a private settlement with her evidencing the transaction by a registered document, paying her a certain sum of money to hush her up;

(b) if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to make enquiries in the matter, inasmuch as Mr. Govindan Nayar is an officer of the Government, armed with magisterial authorities, the proper exercise of which will be very much influenced by the state of his conscience ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) This part of the question refers to the conduct of the Sub-Magistrate in his private capacity, and is removed from the cognisance of the Council by Rule 8 (c) of the Cochin Legislative Council Rules.

(b) The question is hypothetical and cannot be answered.

The vending of arrack and toddy.

457. Mr. A B. Saiem.—Will the Government Member for Excise be pleased to state:—

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